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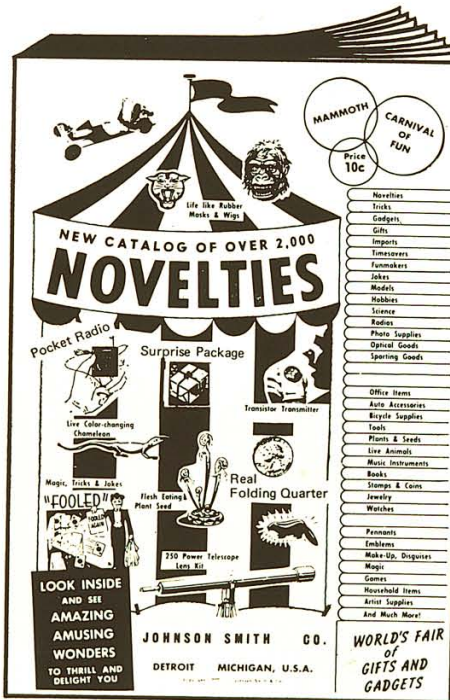
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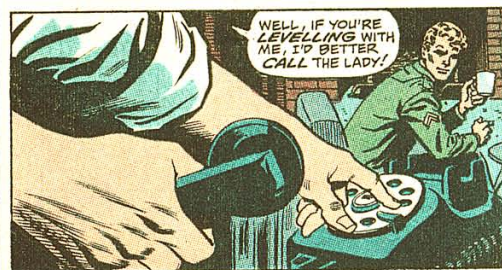
MAYBE IF I KEEP BUSY WORKING ON MY SPIDER-MAN EQUIPMENT, IT'LL HELP TO...

UH OH! SOMEONE AT THE DOOR!

NUTS! THAT'S ALL I NEED AT A TIME LIKE THIS!

PRODUCED AND PRESENTED BY:
STAN LEE
 AUTHOR • EDITOR
JOHN BUSCEMA • JIM MOONEY
 ILLUSTRATORS
JOHN ROMITA,
 ART CONSOLIDATOR || **SAM ROSEN,**
 LETTERER

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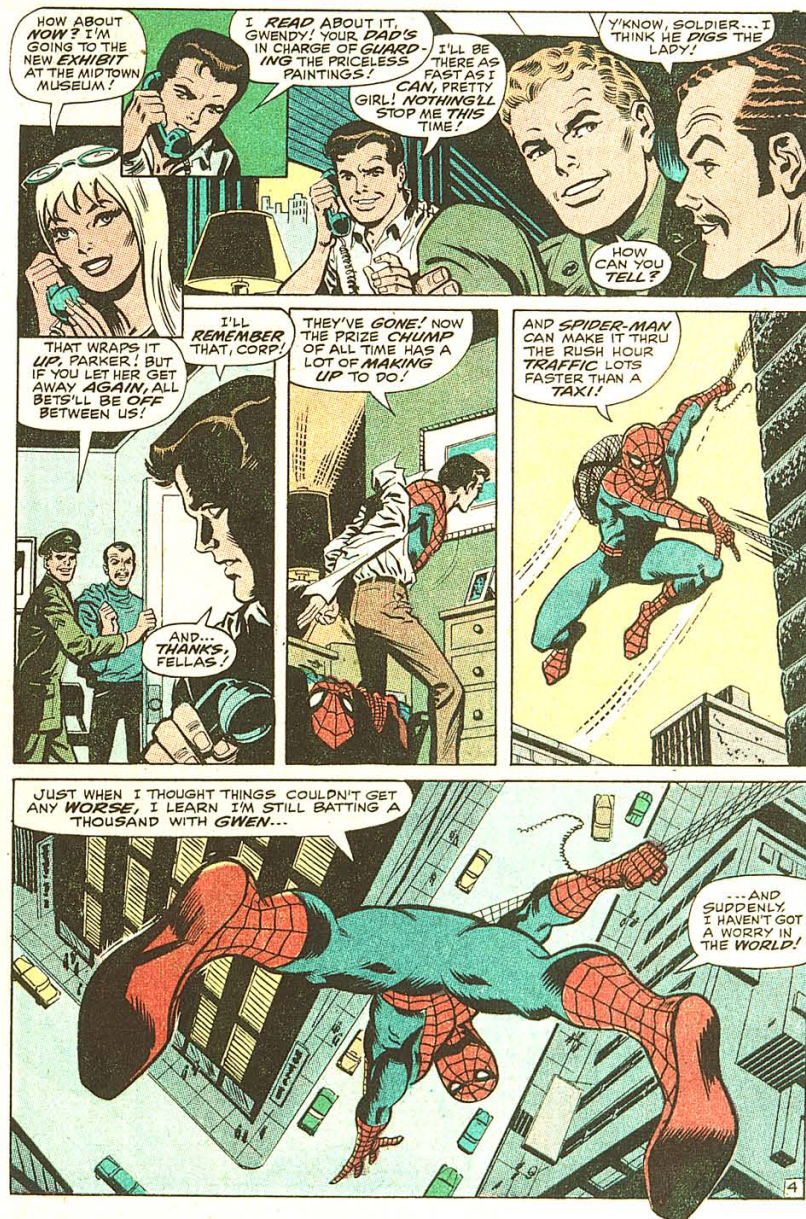
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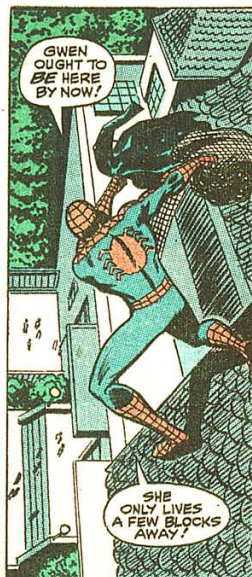
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GWEN OUGHT TO BE HERE BY NOW!

SHE ONLY LIVES A FEW BLOCKS AWAY!



ONLY YESTERDAY, I THOUGHT I'D NEVER WANT TO WEAR THIS NEW SUIT OF MINE!

NOW, I CAN'T WAIT FOR HER TO SEE IT!



THERE SHE IS! MAN... STANDING NEXT TO THOSE MILLION DOLLAR PAINTINGS, SHE STILL LOOKS LIKE THE ONLY MASTERPIECE IN THE PLACE!



PETER! HOW DID YOU GET HERE SO...?

HOLD IT, HONEY! LET'S GO SOMEPLACE WHERE WE CAN TALK IN PRIVATE!



WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME THAT WAY, MR. PARKER?

MAYBE I JUST SUDDENLY REALIZE HOW MUCH I'VE MISSED YOU, GWENDY...



...OR MAYBE... I JUST DON'T FEEL LIKE TALKING!



WHOOOPS! WHAT A TIME FOR YOUR FATHER TO SUDDENLY WALK BY!

THAT'S STRANGE... HE WALKED RIGHT PAST- AS THOUGH HE DIDN'T EVEN NOTICE US!



I GUESS HE'S TOO BUSY WORRYING ABOUT ALL THE PAINTINGS THAT HE'S IN CHARGE OF GUARDING!

CONSIDERING THEIR VALUE, IT'S A MIGHTY BIG RESPONSIBILITY!

HE'S HEADING FOR THE PRIVATE ROOM WHERE THE MOST PRICELESS ONES ARE!



I DON'T GET IT! WHY IS MY SPIDER SENSE STARTING TO TINGLE AT A TIME LIKE THIS?

NOTHING'S HAPPENING... AS FAR AS I CAN TELL!



WELL, WELL... LOOK WHO'S HERE! SOAKING UP SOME CULTURE, PARKER?

CAN'T WASTE TIME TALKING TO A KID WITH SO MANY CELEBRITIES AROUND!

STILL TINGLING! BUT WHY? WHY?

SAY... WHERE'D CAPT. STACY DIS-APPEAR TO?



HELP! SOMEBODY... HELP!

THAT CRY... IT'S COMING FROM THE PRIVATE ROOM... THE ONE DAD HAD ENTERED!

A WOMAN'S VOICE... IN A STATE OF SHOCK!



I JUST WALKED IN... TO SEE IF THE PAINTINGS WERE READY TO BE SHOWN... AND THEY'RE GONE!

THEY'RE ALL GONE!

A SAGACIOUS SMATTERING OF SOMEWHAT SENSELESS SMALL-TALK!

ITEM! Wanna know why we're always bragging that Marvel's riotous readers are a cut above average? Well, try this for a clincher. A short time ago, Sheldon Feldner, director of Univ. of California Vera Cruz University Theatre (and an R.F.O. and K.O.F. to boot), probably having heard that STAN THE MAN is a dyed-in-the-wool Shakespeare buff, contacted the Bullpen to see if we'd help with UCV's University Theatre Company's production of Julius Caesar. Well, the show was a smash when presented on the Coast—with closed-circuit TV yet! And we're gonna frame all the great newspaper clippings that praised Jack's artistry and were good enough to mention merry Marvel in connection with so erudite an endeavor! Next month, the Palladium!

ITEM! Speaking of JOLLY JACK, many long-time fans have been writing to say that THE FANTASTIC FOUR is getting better each issue—with the stories reading more like the memorable masterworks of the FF's early years. This kinda breaks us up, 'cause it's beginning to seem as though we have to take a few steps back in order to surge forward! (The philosophers among you—and what Marvelite isn't?—can mull that one over for a while).

ITEM! Stop worrying! Dry your little tears! Let thy faith be renewed! Despite what you saw in the last ish of SHIELD, we promise you that Nick Fury lives! But don't take our words for it—latch onto AVENGERS #72 (on sale early in Nov) and see for yourself—in living color!

ITEM! In answer to the countless thousands who wanna know where we've hidden JAUNTY JIM STERANKO (well, we did get a postcard or two) you may have trouble believing this, but it's on the level. Last time we saw him, Slim Jim turned down just about every strip we asked him to draw, saying there was only one he wanted to sink his teeth into. We trembly asked which it was, and he answered—(hold onto your hairdo, here)—he's itching to draw a ROMANCE yarn! Try as we may, we couldn't talk him out of it. So, we gave him a hearts-and-flowers assignment for one of our love books, and he left on cloud nine. That was weeks ago, and we haven't seen him since. All we can think of is that the sonofagun is out doing some personal research! Well, we'll keep you posted!

ITEMS! (Some fast one-liners while space permits.) FEARLESS PAUL REINMAN will be penciling for us once again in our two new spooky mags! ... Talk about versatility! JIM (MADMAN) MOONEY is not only a top penciller and inker, but a sculptor, painter, guitarist, and authority on antiquities, as well! ... We're still trying to decide whether MERRY MARIE SEVERIN is our funniest dramatic artist, or our most dramatic humorous cartoonist! (But either way, we love the gal!) ... Say "Hi" to AMABLE ALLYN BROODSKY, our youthful new editorial staffer. He's the only guy we know who talks as fast as RASCALLY ROY. Good thing SMILEY isn't a slow listener! ... WILD BILL EVERETT is now writing scripts for us—and he's even zingier than the great SUB-MARINERS he cooked up about a zillion years ago! ... Have you ever seen a strip that didn't look great when inked by the way-out wizardry of TERRIFIC TOMMY PALMER? (We haven't)

STAN'S SOAPBOX

It's almost unbelievable! We thought it would shake you up when we announced our intention of dropping continued stories—but we never expected to be so completely swamped by an avalanche of irate letters, cards, and telegrams! Even those of you who once thought we were overdoing our continued yarns have threatened to bring the wrath of Marveldom Assembled upon our pointy heads if we dare to drop our never-ending sub-plots. And, so, it's "Here's where Stan tries to get off the hook" time again! We promise NOT to drop our swingin' sub-plots—we never intended to, anyway. All we want to do is see if we can end each story within a single issue. That doesn't mean we may not bring back the villain next ish—or let a running plot-thread continue. But, we want to make it less of a catastrophe if a Believer happens to miss a yarn. Also, we'd like to feel that a new reader can join us "most anywhere" without needing a road map. It's still too early to tell if we're gonna wind up with egg on our faces again, but we promise you this: If our earth-shattering new policy hasn't really grabbed you by the time you read these portentous words—don't worry! We'll switch back to our old, cataclysmically confusin', continued-story policy before you can say "No wonder they dumped ol' Stan!"

Excelsior!

Smiley

... The block-bustin' BUSCEMA brothers (BIG JOHN and OUR PAL SAL) better look to their laurels! JAZZY JOHNNY ROMITA is teaching JOHN JR. how to draw super-hero spectaculars, and we hear that the lad's a whiz already! So, as soon as we have a pair of RING-A-DINGING running wild around here, let's look out for the fireworks! ... The votes have been counted! A united Marveldom wants STAN AND JACK to come up with an INHUMANS mag for 1970, or they'll sic Lockjaw on 'em!

THE MIGHTY MARVEL CHECKLIST
Marvelous Mags On Sale Right Now!

FANTASTIC FOUR #94: The return of the Frightful Four! With mystic witchcraft—and a brand new character!

SPIDER-MAN #80: Remember the Chameleon? Well, how can Spidey fight a man who could be anyone? You'll never guess the ending!

SILVER SURFER #11: The Surfer and Shalla Bal face-to-face at last—while the Sky-Rider combats an army! But then—disaster!

AVENGERS #71: The battle that time forgot! The Avengers take on Cap, the Torch, and Namor in wartime Paris! Don't miss "Endgame"!

THOR #171: The Wrecker is back—with a city at his mercy! But Thor has an operation to perform! Talk about suspense—I

CAPTAIN AMERICA #121: The Man-Brute is born—stronger, faster than Cap himself! But what is the terrible secret which haunts him?

X-MEN #63: Magneto returns—with a new horde of Evil Mutants at his side! Guest-starring the one and only Ka-Zar!

DAREDEVIL #59: Willie Lincoln is marked for death—by the murderous new villain they call the Torpedo! Action all the way!

HULK #123: The Leader is back—and out for vengeance! And if he can't find the Hulk, then Bruce Banner will do! A thriller!

IRON MAN #21: Tony Stark retires! A new Iron Man is born! But then—enter the new and deadlier Crimson Dynamo!

SUB-MARINER #21: It had to happen! Atlantis invades the surface world! But— which side is Namor on?

SGT. FURY #73: The fiercest, fightin'est battleground of all—the Howlers go into action on the Russian Front! A comic-mag first!

TOWER OF SHADOWS #3: The grooviest, most gargoyled goodies of all—told in Marvel's midnight manner!

MARVEL SUPERHEROES #24: DD meets the Purple Man! Plus an early Lee-Kirby X-Men classic! A bargain-sage of a blast!

MARVEL TALES #24: Spidey—Thor—and the terrifically torrid Torch! What more can any superhero buff ask?

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AND, STILL ON SALE—

CAPTAIN MARVEL #19: "The Mad Master of the Murder Maze!" A kookie title—for one of the most offbeat sagas of all!

CHAMBER OF DARKNESS #2: A face in a mirror! A book that foretells the future! A chiller by Edgar Allan Poe! It's a must!

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #24: The F.F.—Iron Man—Dr. Strange—and an all-new Watcher epic! Bargains galore!

CAPT. SAVAGE #17: The spotlight—and the sunspots—are trained on Jay Little Bear! Lie great!

OUR LOVE STORY #2: Even if you don't dig gals' mags, think of the fun you'll have trying to guess which strip was drawn by whom!

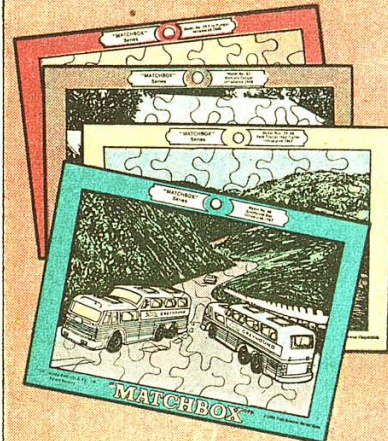


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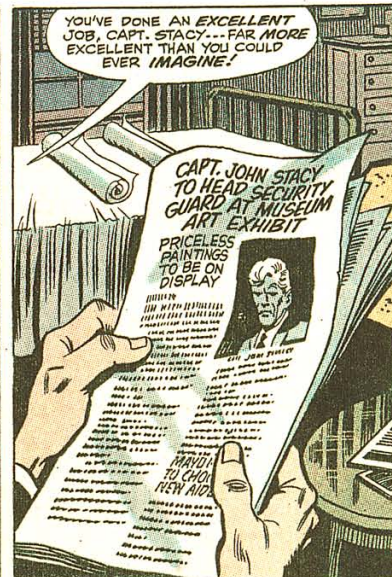
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...AS THE UNBEATABLE CHAMELEON BASKS IN THE GLOW OF HIS LATEST TRIUMPH!



NO ONE CAN CATCH ME! NO ONE CAN STOP ME! FOR I AM THE WORLD'S GREATEST MASTER OF DISGUISE!



BUT, SOMEWHERE IN THE SPRAWLING CITY, A TROUBLED YOUTH REFUSES TO ADMIT DEFEAT...

I KNOW GWEN'S DAD JUST CAN'T BE GUILTY!

AND IF I'M RIGHT...IT MEANS SOMEONE WAS IMPERSONATING HIM!

BUT WHO COULD BE SKILLFUL ENOUGH TO FOOL HIS OWN DAUGHTER AND ME?



IT MUST HAVE BEEN SOMEONE I'VE KNOWN... BECAUSE OF THE WAY MY SPIDEY-SENSE TINGLED!

HOLY SHMOK! WHAT A LAMEBRAIN I AM! OF COURSE...OF COURSE!

I SHOULD HAVE GUESSED IT RIGHT AWAY!



IT'S BEEN SO LONG, THAT I'VE ALMOST FORGOTTEN HIM... BUT IT COULD ONLY HAVE BEEN...THE CHAMELEON!

*IT WAS ISH #2 TO BE EXACT! --STAN 9

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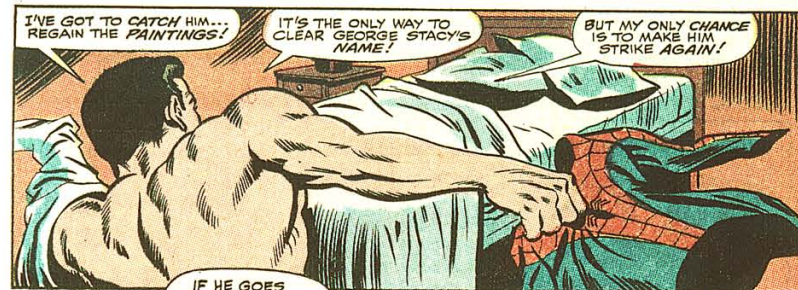
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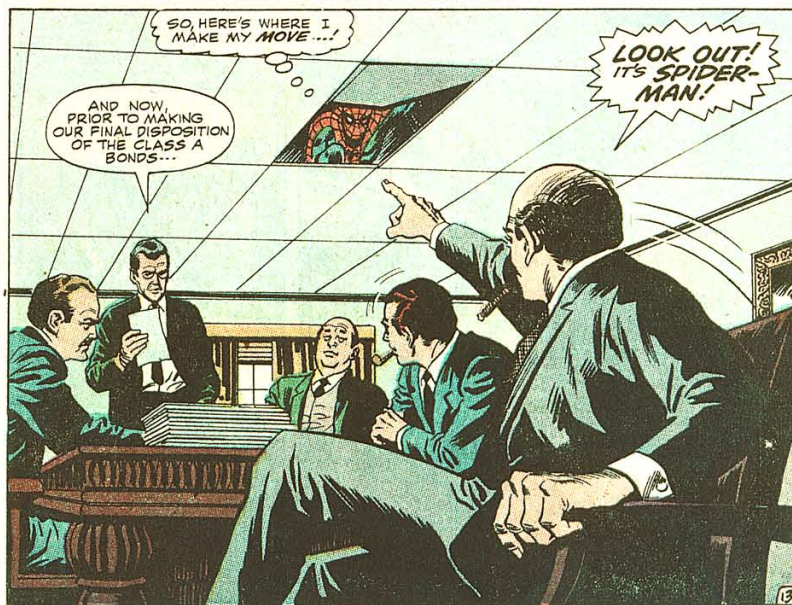
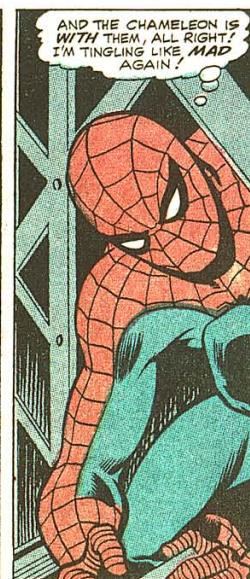
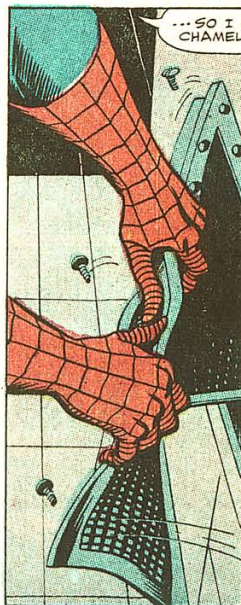
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☐ Check, state of you enclose full payment with order (plus sales tax, if any). We pay postage charges. You have same return privilege.

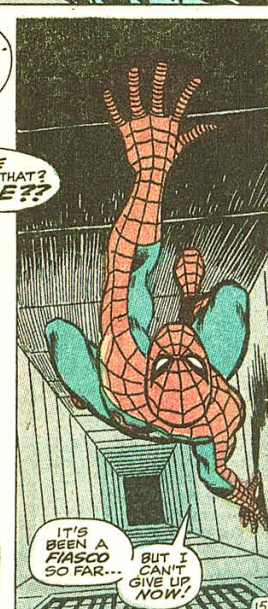
Name _____

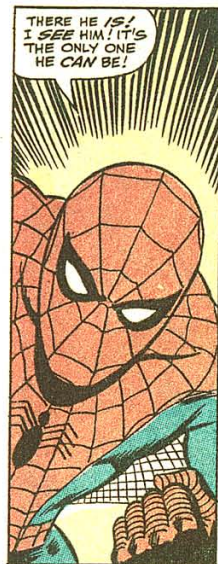
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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ No. _____









THERE HE IS!
I SEE HIM! IT'S
THE ONLY ONE
HE CAN BE!



HOLD IT, MISTER!
I'VE GOT YOU NOW!

LOOK!
UP THERE!
THE WEBHEAD'S
ATTACKING
AGAIN!

GET
HIM!
GET
HIM!



CLAM UP, LIVERLIPS! I'VE
GOT THE ONE YOU REALLY
WANT!

NO! NO!
YOU'RE
INSANE! HELP!
SOMEONE
HELP ME!

YOU MADE
THE BIGGEST
MISTAKE OF
YOUR LIFE THIS
TIME, CHAMELEON!



YOU CHOSE THE IDENTITY
OF THE ONE PERSON
I KNEW YOU COULDN'T BE!

I'VE NO MORE USE
FOR HIM THAN YOU
DO-- BUT YOU CAN'T
HIT A KID JUST
'CAUSE HE'S TAKEN SO
MANY PICTURES OF
YOU!

JAMESON--
KEEP OUT OF
THIS! YOU'RE
GETTING IN
OUR WAY
AGAIN!



THAT PINHEAD'S
IN EVERYBODY'S
WAY!

I DIDN'T
WANNA HIT 'IM--
I WANTED TO YANK
HIS MASK OFF!

NOW LOOK
WHAT YOU
MADE ME
DO!



STAY
BACK!
I DON'T
WANT
ANYONE
TO GET
HURT!

BUT I CAN'T
LET THAT
FREAKY FOUL-
UP GET AWAY!



PARKER!
WHAT ARE YOU
DOING?

WADDA
YOU THINK,
FISH FACE?

THE
KID'S
GONE
CRAZY!
HE'S
TOSsing
A BOMB!



I TOLD YOU IT
WASN'T PETER
PARKER!

NOW
MAYBE YOU'LL
REALIZE
WHERE IT'S
AT!



THERE! MY
WEBBING'LL
MUFFLE THE
BLAST LONG
ENOUGH TO
MAKE IT
HARMLESS!

SPLOOM!

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 Box 130, Dept. MC-1, Shenandoah State, Miami, Fla. 33149

SHOP BY MAIL

NEW PROTEIN RINSE

Safely CURLS, WAVES HAIR

Without Permanent Waving

Comb through hair, put up on regular curlers or pins. Overnight hair takes on soft lustrous casual waves and curls as naturally wavy hair, safe for all types hair, even dyed hair. And no matter how damp or rainy the weather, your hair stays as neat the 7th day as the first. Conditions dry hair. It's amazing. Guarantee satisfaction or money back. Send \$2.00 for enough RINSA RAMA® Concentrate to make 2 gallons. H. C. O. D., postage extra. Write for RINSA RAMA® today.

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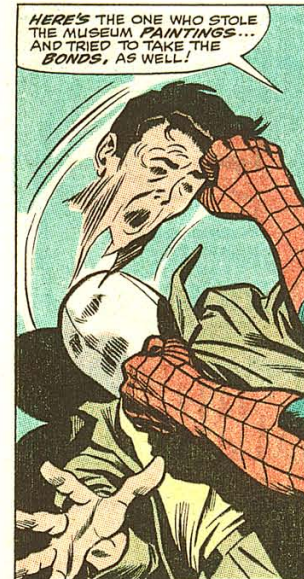
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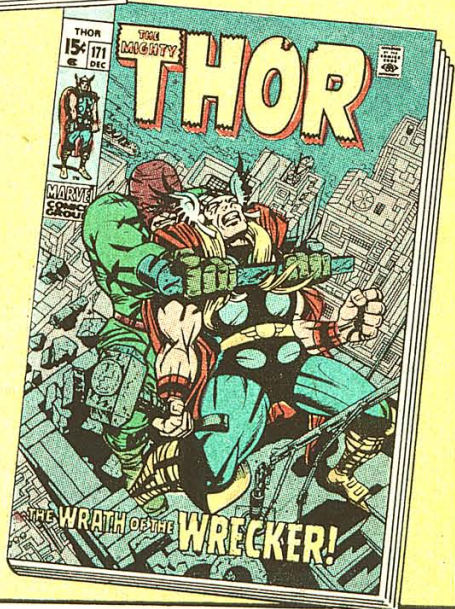
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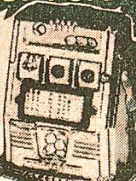


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THE SPIDER'S WEB

SEND YOUR LETTERS TO:

THE MARVEL COMICS GROUP, SECOND FLOOR 625 MADISON AV., NEW YORK, N. Y. 10022

Dear Stan and all the other Marvel Madmen,

I keep reading pros and cons for Spidey keeping or losing his secret identity. Chuck Hamilton suggests that he tell one and all. Well, no offense intended, but evidently he hasn't noticed the mess CAPTAIN AMERICA got into recently when everyone knew who he was. Spidey has enough problems without that kind of trouble. That he doesn't need; unless someone's willing to furnish him with a bullet-proof, unobtainable hideout for the rest of his life. And who needs THAT?

However, this is not to say that I feel Spidey/Pete shouldn't tell anyone. Gwen is a possibility, though that would seem to go against his stand of trying to spare his womanfolk (unsuccessfully at times) from needless worry and grief. But Peter needs someone to talk to, someone to ask for an opinion or even just there to say, "Come on now, just settle down, old friend — and think!"

Because all too often Spidey's too close to his problem to know what to do. You know the saying about hindsight... well, sometimes hindsight isn't much different from foresight if you have someone to bounce your ideas off.

About Spidey's hair (or Peter's however you choose to look at it). How many of you fellows have tried wearing a real close knit hood over long hair? It's suffocating! With a face-mask added — WHEW! I think most of the female readers will agree with me when I say that Peter has beautiful hair. He's just fine the way he is! Besides, Gwen likes him the way he is, so why should anyone try to change him?

Linda Hill, 400 Craig Avenue East
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Whoa — take it easy, Linda Honey. We haven't said that we're definitely going to change Peter Parker in any major way — or that we're gonna tell anybody about his arachnid alter ego. All we ever hinted was that we were vaguely considering it — and that we wanted to know what the Spideophiles of the world thought of the idea.

So far, frankly, no clear-cut decision has been forthcoming either from the great majority of readers' letters or from the deep, dark recesses of the Bullpen's collective brain. But, if and when we do take such an irrevocable step, we'd want to surprise you by revealing it in the course of one of Spidey's web-slinging sagas. So, till then — keep watching, gal. The only thing that's certain is that you can't be certain about anything when you're dealing with mixed-up Marvel.



KNOW YE THESE, THE HALLOWED RANKS OF MARVELDOM:

R.F.O. (Real Frantic One) — A buyer of at least 3 Marvel mags a month.
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K.O.F. (Keeper Of the Flame) — One who recruits a newcomer to Marvel's rollickin' ranks.
P.M.M. (Permanent Marvelite Maximum) — Anyone possessing all four of the other titles.
F.F.F. (Fearless Front-Facer) — An honorary title bestowed for devotion to Marvel above and beyond the call of duty.

Dear Stan,

I read with extreme pleasure your decision to revert to the one-episode stories in future magazines. I've been a little dismayed and slightly confused by some of the drawn-out inter-magazine stories that make me review the past three or four issues of each magazine simply to remember what the heck's going on!

As a teacher, I think it's high time Spidey decided on a major in his college work. I really think that he could make a great contribution to the educational system, especially as a science teacher ("And now, students, watch as I demonstrate the center-of-gravity principle of a free-hanging object"). Surely fellow English prof Roy Thomas can exert some influence on Spidey's future career. Peter can't just spend his whole life 'hanging around street corners' now, can he?

James D. Grabach, English Teacher

Buckeye Union High, Buckeye, Arizona 85326

Probably not, Jim — but for the past few years, that has managed to keep him kind'a busy.

Actually, it seems to us that, somewhere along the line, we've vaguely established Pete as a "science major." However, we realize as well as you do that the latter is a rather vague category, since there are countless branches of the sciences that he could choose to specialize in — in addition to the science-teacher vocation which you'd wish on him.

And you're right, of course. One of these days, we're gonna have to make a decision on that long-delayed matter. But we figure he's still got a little time left. After all, many colleges don't allow specialization till the junior year, and we figure that (since time passes more slowly in the Marvel universe than in the normal world) that's still quite a way off!



Dear Stan and the Marvel Gang,

I sincerely hope that anyone who has ever written Marvel complaining of letter pages which are "too complimentary" will see Issue #75 of SPIDERMAN.

None of the three letters in #75 deal heavily in praise; rather they point out what each writer feels to be an increasing flaw in your handling of Spidey-policy... editorially. This is the first instance which comes to mind of an 'all con' letter column, and if so, chalk up another first for the Madmen!

Greg Falcon, 8916 Crockett Drive
New Orleans, Louisiana 70123

If so, it wasn't an intentional one, Greg. We try, as a general rule, to keep a delicate balance in the letters we select for publication in the pulsating pages. For instance, although the great majority of letters which flood our front office are of the complimentary variety, we've always figured that too many of this type can make for a rather lackluster letters-page.

On the other hand, we don't want Marveldom Assembled to get the mistaken idea that each and every letter-writer is busy pointing out flaws and pitfalls in our mags — 'cause that wouldn't be true, either. It just so happened that, in the ish you mention, we thought that the most interesting letters of the month were the ones that were the most controversial, so we printed 'em — and, as you can see from the missives which grace this page, they've started quite a few other Spidey-boosters thinking as well — some to agree and some to disagree, but that's just as it oughta be.

Still, if you want to look on it as another fantastic first for mighty Marvel — be our guest, pal!



Dear Stan, John and Jim,

Regarding Mark Fromm's letter in #76 suggesting the draft for Spidey, I doubt if it could happen. I'm sure Pete is registered (he'd better be!) and am willing to be he is 1Y, because he is the only surviving male of his family line, plus the only support and loving relative of Aunt May. Plus being a student, even if his attendance record at E.S.U. isn't all it should be.

Better you have Torch drafted. After all, he isn't a student, he isn't employed, and a year overseas for him, whether in Viet or not, would put off the numerology problem of the FANTASTIC FOUR-five for a while.
Laura Winkler, 12 1/2 Charter Oak Place
Hartford, Connecticut

Hmmm... there must be a less drastic solution to that "numerology problem," Laura. At least, we hope so — Torch fans of the world hope so — and though we haven't polled him on the subject, we feel that Johnny Storm might have a few other suggestions as well. Still, you never know...!

Dear Stan and John,

I will have to agree in part with Mr. Games. Peter Parker does not seem to have the mess of hang-ups that characterized his first 50-odd issues. Although isolated from my collection, being down here in Vietnam, I can fondly remember Parker lost in a world of worried confusion over his many problems, and angry, bewildered and frustrated at a public which, prodded by the hate-mongery of a psychotic JJJ, refused to see his worth and responded to his imagined bod. (I note that you're developing a similar situation with the SILVER SURFER.) I do not believe that, and don't want to see you give Spidey acceptance and a state of apparent normalcy. And keep him a little bit on the square side!

Which reminds me, what ever happened to those absurdly-over-sized glasses Peter Parker used to wear back in those early days? Cpl. G. Richard Bozarth, 2357532 USMC
5th Comm Bn FMF, RR&C Co, FPO
San Francisco, California 96630

Seems to us that he broke 'em one day, corporal — and he must have discovered that his spider powers had improved his vision, because he never bothered to replace 'em. Just one of the side-benefits of being a superhero, we guess — but don't be too certain that the same result would happen twice from the same cause! (In other words, we don't want to see every Spider-Man buff who suffers from astigmatism spend all his time looking for a radioactive spider to put the bite on him!)



Dear Stan and John,

I'm rather curious... mmmh! I dug out SPIDERMAN #71 today, and noticed that Pete had sold some pix to the Bugle — about the Kingpin. He received, let's say, a handsome reward. Everytime I look at that check, it puzzles me to think: "How much money was it worth?"

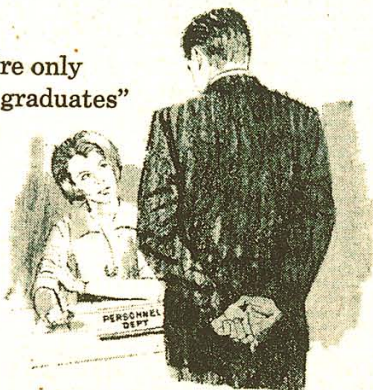
Could you help me out?

John Callado, 417 Franklin Turnpike
Building 5, Apt. 2, Mahwah, New Jersey

Not us, John — that's a secret between Pete, JJJ, and the teller at the First National Bank. However, if and when a particular sum is ever mentioned between the first two of the above trio, we'll be sure to report it in the pages of Spidey's latest adventure. After all, Stan and John just tell 'em the way they hear 'em, Mr. C.!



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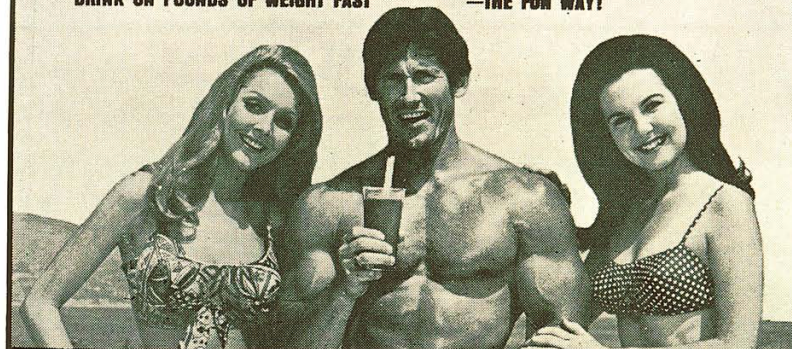
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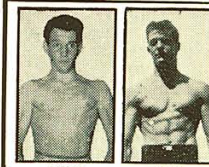
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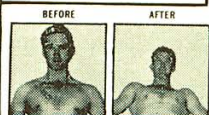


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